

mass, based on the mass of the solution, of at least one substance having a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 selected from the group consisting of cellulose, [and/or] another polymer and combinations thereof and, with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 is used for spinning]

spinning and processing the solution into fibers.

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2. (Amended) Method according to claim 1[, characterized in that] comprising providing a solution having a content of between 0.10 and 0.55 % by mass, based on the mass of the solution, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 [is used for spinning].

3. (Amended) Method according to claim 2[, characterized in that] comprising providing a solution having a content of between 0.15 and 0.45 % by mass, based on the mass of the solution, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 [is used for spinning].

4. (Amended) Method according to any one of claims 1 to 3[, characterized in that] wherein the tertiary amine oxide is N-methyl-morpholine-N-oxide [is used as the tertiary amine oxide].

[Please cancel claim 5.

6. (Amended) Cellulose fiber of the lyocell type[, characterized in that it exhibits] having a titer of maximally 1 dtex.

7. (Amended) Cellulose fiber of the lyocell type, obtainable by a process according to any one of claims 1 to [4]3.

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8. (Amended) Cellulose fiber according to [one of] claim[s] 6 [or 7, characterized in that it has] having a content of between 0.25 and 7.0% by mass, [particularly between 1.0 and 3.0 %] based on the mass of the cellulose fiber, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 .

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9. (Amended) Cellulose fiber according [to one of] claim[s] 6 [to 8, characterized in that it is present in the form of] wherein said fiber is a staple fiber.

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10. (Amended) Method of producing cellulose fibers of the lyocell type by processing a spinnable solution of cellulose in an aqueous tertiary amine oxide by the dry/wet-spinning process[, comprising:
[characterized in that]

(1) providing a solution having a content of between 0.0-5 and 0.70 % by mass, based on the mass of the solution, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 [is used for spinning] and

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- (2) spinning the solution with a spinnerette having more than 10,000 spinning holes[is employed for spinning,] which holes are arranged in such a manner that neighboring spinning holes are spaced maximally 3 mm apart and that the linear density of the spinning holes is at least 20.

┌ Please add the following new claims: ┐

--11. Cellulose fiber of the lyocell type obtainable by a process according to claim 4.--

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--12. Cellulose fiber according to claim 7 having a content of between 0.25 and 7.0% by mass, based on the mass of the cellulose fiber, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 .--

--13. Cellulose fiber according to claim 11 having a content of between 0.25 and 7.0% by mass, based on the mass of the cellulose fiber, of cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 .--

--14. Cellulose fiber according to claim 8 having a cellulose content of between 1.0 and 3.0% by mass, based on the mass of the cellulose fiber, of cellulose, with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 .--

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) Method of producing lyocell-type cellulose fibers by processing a spinnable solution of cellulose in an aqueous tertiary amine oxide according to the dry/wet-spinning process comprising:

providing a solution having a content of between 0.05 % by mass and 0.70% by mass, based on the mass of the solution, of [at least one substance] cellulose having a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 [selected from the group consisting of cellulose, another polymer and combinations thereof] and,
spinning and processing the solution into fibers.

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended to specify a cellulose with a molecular weight of at least 5×10^5 . The amendment to claim 1 is supported by original claim 10.

In the Office Action, the Examiner states that since parent application PCT/AT98/00151 published as WO 98/58103 on December 23, 1998 prior to the filing date of the present application, Applicant has not complied with the conditions for receiving the benefit of an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. More particularly, the Examiner cites a portion of the statute which states that an application which claims the benefit of an earlier application must be a co-pending application. In this regard, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner has